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Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

QUESTION NO. 3302

Mr D W Macpherson (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

With regard to the upcoming African Growth and Opportunity Act Summit to be held in the Republic in November 2023, what are the details of the position of the Government regarding the quotas on the various products as contained in the Act? NO4401E

REPLY:

AGOA provides for duty-free and quota-free access into the United States market building on another US trade preference scheme called the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program. The previous Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) had competitive need limitations (CNL) for certain products, which meant if exports of those products to the US exceeded a certain threshold, any exports above the threshold would be subjected to the normal (Most Favoured Nation) tariffs. However, AGOA removed the CNL and integrated GSP benefits into the programme, thereby rendering AGOA duty-free quota-free.

The AGOA beneficiary countries have agreed to encourage the US to remove the trade restrictions on African products exported to the US that are limiting the AGOA utilization, as well as to expand the list of AGOA's products to make it wider and include products of export interest to beneficiary countries. South Africa will continue to advocate for the extension of AGOA with all current beneficiaries and benefits retained.

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